



Pastor's Page

Signs of God

I discovered on Friday that London may soon be seeing buses on its roads bearing the slogan "*There's probably no God. Now stop worrying and enjoy your life.*" The controversial posters are the idea of the British Humanist Association (BHA) and have been supported by prominent atheist Professor Richard Dawkins.

The BHA aims to have two sets of 30 buses carrying the signs for four weeks. As the campaign has raised more than anticipated (£36,000) it will also have posters on the inside of buses as well. The BHA is also considering extending the campaign to cities including Birmingham, Manchester and Edinburgh.

When I heard about this it reminded me of a story I was told as a young boy. The story was about an old preacher who began his sermon on one occasion by opening the bible and reading the words "There is no God". After re-reading them he closed the book and said "well if that's the case I might as well go home! And in front of a shocked congregation he came down from the pulpit picked up his hat and coat and walked towards the chapel door. As he was about to open the door to leave, he stopped and said; "just a minute, who said there is no God?" He then walked back to the pulpit, re-opened the bible at Psalm 14 and read 'The fool says in his heart "there is no God"' "Oh that's' different" He said, took his hat and coat off and preached the rest of his sermon to a riveted audience! I always loved that story and have often wished I had the nerve to start a sermon in such a manner!

So the bible says that it's foolish to claim that there is no God and I don't know why the British Humanist Association is foolish enough to spend £36,000 declaring it. Do they have any evidence for their belief? (Claiming that "there is no God" is a step of faith, impossible to prove as you can never prove a negative) Well there is plenty of Evidence for God's existence. Here are three reasons to believe in God;

1. **Creation.** The bible says "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities – his eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. (Rom 1:20) The wonder and design in nature points to a designer
2. **Conscience.** There is a universal sense of 'right and wrong, in the universe. The rules may vary from country to country but the sense that some things are morally right and some things wrong, points to God – the judge of the whole earth.
3. **Jesus Christ.** This 1st century Galilean preacher said "I am the way and the truth and the life no-one comes to the father (God) expect through me" (John 14:6) He also said "I have come that they might have life and have it to the full" (John 10:10) The argument about God's existence is settled by Jesus who claimed to be God and proved it by rising from the dead!

So here's an idea for a new slogan: "There definitely is a God, Jesus proves it. So stop worrying and put your trust in him." That truly is a great message to share on the streets of our cities - all I need now is to find some very long buses!!

11th January 2009